GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:329
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2007
NATIONAL ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFER SYSTEM
Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Post Office Savings Banks in each State and such offices with Capital Adequacy Ratio to become eligible for National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT) system;

(b) the advantages and benefits to public envisaged from empowering the post office savings banks through enabling them to transfer funds electronically;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal for computerizing and networking of post office savings banks throughout the country and grant NEFT membership to them to help people avail of electronic transfer facility through their deposits in post offices; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) The number of Post Offices doing Savings Bank / Savings Certificate work as on 31-3-2006, circle-wise is indicated in the Annexure. There is no concept of Capital Adequacy Ratio in the Post offices.

(b) POSB has no proposal for electronic transfer of funds in the near future in view of which it is not possible to state the benefits and advantages that may accrue from such a system.

(c) The Department does have a proposal for computerizing and networking some of its post offices doing SB work during the XIth Plan. The issue of availing of NEFT membership is at this stage premature and hence has not been considered.

(d) During the XIth Plan period there is a proposal to network 4000 post offices doing savings bank work with central server based technology. However, the proposal still awaits clearance / approval from the prescribed authorities. Unless the Post Offices are networked with Central Server based Technology, the concept of NEFT membership to certain Post Offices cannot be brought in.